

EXECUTIVE – 15 JULY 2021

HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

Executive Summary

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2021-31 highlights the five key priority areas of: mental health, isolation and loneliness, ability to remain independent at home, identification and support for carers and obesity.

The strategy was considered by the Woking Joint Committee at its meeting on 23 June 2021 where it was discussed and recommended subject to comments from the Executive on 15 July 2021 and Council on 29 July 2021.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2031 for pre-decision scrutiny at its meeting on 12 July 2021.

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL That

the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2031 be approved.

Reasons for Decision

Reason: The priorities identified in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy will positively impact and support the health and wellbeing of the residents of Woking.

The item(s) above will need to be dealt with by way of a recommendation to Council.

Background Papers: None.

Reporting Person: Julie Fisher, Chief Executive
Email: julie.fisher@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3333

Contact Person: Julie Mémé, Health and Wellbeing Manager
Email: julie.meme@woking.gov.uk, Extn: 3412

Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Debbie Harlow
Email: cllrdebbie.harlow@woking.gov.uk

Shadow Portfolio Holder: Councillor Will Forster
Email: cllrwill.forster@woking.gov.uk
Councillor Deborah Hughes
Email: cllrdeborah.hughes@woking.gov.uk

Date Published: 7 July 2021

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The health of people in Woking is generally better than the English average. However, there are inequalities in areas and groups of residents. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2031 looks at the health of Woking in detail, taking into account previous reports, strategies, available data and having considered these in discussion with residents and partners, it identifies the priorities for the Borough. The work will be highlighted in the Action Plan which includes actions to deliver the strategic objective for the priority and measures the outcomes. An Action Plan will be developed every year to deliver the Council's strategic objectives, taking into account resident and partner feedback.
- 1.2 The draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy is attached as Appendix 1.

2.0 Wider Determinants of Health

- 2.1 Health is impacted by a wide range of factors – the circumstances in which people are born, grow, live, work and age as well as access to and quality of health and social care. These wider determinants of health can have a positive or negative impact on health.
- 2.2 The Council can influence these wider determinants of health through its roles in planning, designing and developing places, ensuring residents can access health services in their local communities.
- 2.3 To succeed, the Strategy requires strong partnership working with the North West Surrey Health and Care Alliance.

3.0 Methodology

- 3.1 The Strategy has been developed having considered a number of reports and strategies including the NHS Long Term Plan, Surrey Health and Wellbeing Strategy, priorities of North West Surrey Health and Care Alliance and the work of Woking Redeeming Our Communities. National, Surrey and local data have been analysed to obtain a true picture of Woking's resident's health outcomes.
- 3.2 The Strategy has been tested and priorities shared with key partners and officers have drawn on the expertise and experience working with people in Woking to develop the Strategy.
- 3.3 The Strategy has been developed through the pandemic and taken into account the actions needed to support our most vulnerable residents. There was limited opportunity to directly engage with residents and this strategy will be dynamic, taking into account resident feedback and its Action Plan will be reviewed each year to reflect that feedback. It is intended to use the newly reformed Woking Resident's Panel as a means to engage and test outcomes of the Strategy going forward, as well as existing clients of our services and potential clients.

4.0 Priorities

- 4.1 Five key priorities have been identified to deliver the Council's vision for the health and wellbeing of the Woking population:
 - (i) **We will support and wherever possible, improve the mental health of people in Woking.** Mental health is a priority for our whole population and we have

identified children and young adults as a particular focus group because of the increasing number of issues being experienced.

- (ii) **We will identify and support people experiencing social isolation and loneliness in Woking.** We have identified older people as the focus group because there is strong evidence that many adults aged 50 and over are socially isolated or lonely in ways that put their health at risk.
- (iii) **We will reduce obesity rates in Woking.** Obesity is a significant issue in Woking. We will tackle it by focusing on the main causes, poor diet and low levels of physical activity. We have identified children as the focus group as children who are overweight are more likely to be overweight adults and have higher rates of morbidity, disability and premature mortality in adulthood.
- (iv) **We will empower residents to live independent lives.** We will provide services that support people to live as independently as possible in their own homes.
- (v) **We will support the wellbeing of carers.** We will support carers in a way that will enable them to continue their important caring role but minimise the impact of these duties on their own health and wellbeing.

5.0 Action Plan

- 5.1 An Action Plan will set out the key actions to deliver the priorities. The Action Plan will be a working document that is regularly updated through the life of the Strategy.
- 5.2 The Action Plan will be developed with the principles of supporting diversity and inclusion, partnership working, resident engagement, building on our strengths and utilising digital approaches where possible.
- 5.3 The Action Plan will ensure that monitoring measures are implemented for both the short and long term aspirations, in order to monitor progress.

6.0 Corporate Strategy

- 6.1 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy underpins the corporate objective of “improving the health and wellbeing of all residents” and it clearly demonstrates how the Council’s services impact the wellbeing of residents in the widest sense. The Strategy and Action Plan addresses issues of social isolation, supports independent living and outlines how the Council will work to drive sustainable development that provides the green spaces and environmental improvements that support both physical and emotional wellbeing.
- 6.2 The Strategy has been created together with partners and demonstrates how the Council will work with partners to integrate services and drive best value and effective use of resources.

7.0 Implications

Finance and Risk

- 7.1 It is anticipated that the work required as a result of the Strategy will be accommodated within existing resources.

Equalities and Human Resources

- 7.2 It is anticipated that the work required as a result of the Strategy will be accommodated within existing resources.

Legal

- 7.3 There are no specific legal implications or risks identified within the report.

8.0 Engagement and Consultation

- 8.1 The Strategy has been developed in consultation with partners, the voluntary sector and staff. The Action Plan will be developed through resident engagement throughout the life of the Strategy.
- 8.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2031 for pre-decision scrutiny at its meeting on 12 July 2021. The views of the Committee will be reported to the Executive on 15 July 2021.

REPORT ENDS